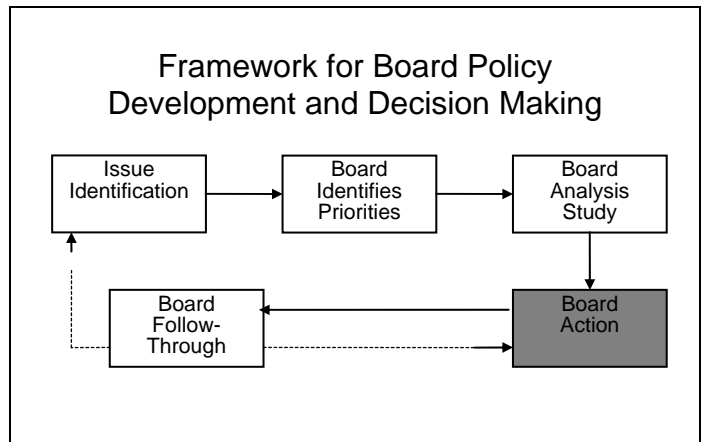


Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

July 26, 2007



Agenda Item: Chapter 12 rules, General Accreditation Standards (Notice)

Iowa Goal: (2) All K-12 students will achieve at high levels, prepared for success beyond high school.

Equity Impact Statement: All school districts and accredited nonpublic schools are governed by the accreditation standards. In addition to some minor “clean up” items, these rule amendments adopt K-12 core content standards and add another possible reason for a phase II visit.

Presenter: Carol Greta

Attachments: 1

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board give public notice of its intent to adopt and file the following amendments to this chapter.

Background: Other than the first 5 items of rules, which are minor clean up items, these amendments are driven by action taken this past session by the Iowa Legislature.

Items 7 and 8 implement the adoption of core content standards for all kindergarten through twelfth grade students in reading, math, and science as mandated in 2007 Iowa Acts, Senate File 588, section 17. The legislation states that the core content standards shall be identical to those in Iowa’s standards and assessment system that was approved by the federal department of education.

Item 9 implements 2007 Iowa Acts, House File 317, which amends Iowa Code section 256.11, subsection 10, to authorize a phase II accreditation visit upon the recommendation of the school budget review committee for a school district that exceeds its authorized budget or carries a negative unspent balance for two or more consecutive years. Item 6 amends the title of the division of chapter 12 in which phase II visits are discussed to reflect that districts are accountable for more than student achievement.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT [281]

Notice of Intended Action

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 256.7(5), the State Board of Education hereby proposes to amend Chapter 12, "General Accreditation Standards," Iowa Administrative Code.

Items 1 through 5 are miscellaneous minor "clean-up" matters, deleting subjects that no longer exist in statute (Items 4 and 5) or requirements that are not accreditation items (Items 1, 2, and 3).

Items 7 and 8 implement the adoption of core content standards for all kindergarten through twelfth grade students in reading, math, and science as mandated in 2007 Iowa Acts, Senate File 588, section 17. The legislation states that the core content standards shall be identical to those in Iowa's standards and assessment system that was approved by the federal department of education.

Item 9 implements 2007 Iowa Acts, House File 317, which amends Iowa Code section 256.11, subsection 10, to authorize a phase II accreditation visit upon the recommendation of the school budget review committee for a school district that exceeds its authorized budget or carries a negative unspent balance for two or more consecutive years. Item 6 amends the title of the division of chapter 12 in which phase II visits are discussed to reflect that districts are accountable for more than student achievement.

An agency-wide waiver provision is provided in 281—chapter 4.

Interested individuals may make written comments on the proposed amendments on or before September 14, 2007, at 4:30 p.m. Comments on the proposed amendments should be directed to Carol Greta, Attorney 3, Iowa Department of Education, Second Floor, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146; telephone (515)281-8661; E-mail carol.greta@iowa.gov; or fax (515)281-4122.

A public hearing will be held on September 14, 2007, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., at the State Board Room on the second floor of the Grimes State Office Building, East 14th Street and Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa, at which time persons may present their views either orally or in writing. Any persons who intend to attend the public hearing and have special requirements such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments should advise the Department of Education of their specific needs by calling (515)281-5295.

These amendments are intended to implement 2007 Iowa Acts, Senate File 588.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Delete and reserve subrule **12.3(7)**.

ITEM 2. Delete and reserve subrule **12.3(10)**.

ITEM 3. Amend subrule **12.4(11)** as follows:

12.4(11) *Record required regarding teacher and administrative assignments.* The board shall require its superintendent or other designated administrator to maintain a file for all regularly employed members of the instructional professional staff, including substitute teachers. The file shall consist of ~~complete official transcripts of the preparation of these staff members and their~~ legal licenses/certificates or copies thereof for all members of the instructional professional staff, including substitute teachers, showing that they are eligible for the position in which employed. The official shall also maintain on file a legal license/certificate or statement of professional recognition as defined in subrule 12.4(2) for each member of the noninstructional professional staff. These records shall be on file at the beginning of and throughout each school year and shall be updated annually to reflect all professional growth. On December 1 of each year, the official shall verify to the department of education the licensure/certification and endorsement status of each member of the instructional and administrative staff. This report shall be on forms provided by the department of education and shall identify all persons holding ~~conditional~~ authorizations and their specific assignment(s) with the ~~conditional~~ authorization(s).

ITEM 4. Amend subrule **12.5(10)** as follows:

12.5(10) *Technology integration.* Each school or school district shall incorporate into its comprehensive school improvement plan demonstrated use of technology to meet its student learning goals. ~~As described in Iowa Code section 295.3, progress with the use of technology shall be included in the school district's annual progress report.~~

ITEM 5. Delete and reserve subrule **12.5(17)**.

ITEM 6. Amend title of **DIVISION VIII** as follows:

~~ACCOUNTABILITY FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT~~

ITEM 7. Amend paragraph “c” of subrule **12.8(1)** as follows:

c. Content standards and benchmarks.

(1) No change.

(2) Content standards and benchmarks. The board shall adopt clear, rigorous, and challenging content standards and benchmarks in reading, mathematics, and science to guide the learning of students from the date of school entrance until high school graduation. Included in the local standards and benchmarks shall be the core content standards from Iowa’s approved standards and assessment system under the applicable provisions of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Standards and benchmarks may be adopted for other curriculum areas defined in [281—Chapter 12](#), Division V. The comprehensive school improvement plan submitted to the department shall contain, at a minimum, the core content standards for reading, mathematics, and science. The educational program as defined in [281—Chapter 12](#), Division II, shall incorporate career education, multicultural and gender fair education, technology integration, global education, higher-order thinking skills, learning skills, and communication skills as outlined in subrules [12.5\(7\)](#), [12.5\(8\)](#), [12.5\(10\)](#), and [12.5\(11\)](#), and subparagraph 12.8(1)“c”(1).

ITEM 8. Amend the introductory paragraph in paragraph “f” of subrule **12.8(1)** as follows:

f. Assessment of student progress. Each school or school district shall include in its comprehensive school improvement plan provisions for districtwide assessment of student progress for all students. The plan shall identify valid and reliable student assessments aligned with local content standards, which include the core standards referenced in subrule 12.8(1)“c”(2). These assessments are not limited to commercially developed measures. School districts receiving early intervention funding described in subrule [12.5\(18\)](#) shall provide for diagnostic reading assessments for kindergarten through grade 3 students as described in 1999 Iowa Acts, House File 743.

ITEM 9. Add new paragraph (5) to paragraph “b” of subrule **12.8(4)** as follows:

(5) Upon recommendation of the school budget review committee for a district that exceeds its authorized budget or carries a negative unspent balance for at least two consecutive years.